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Dated: March 3, 2003

Signature

(Monica Thomas)

Docket No.: HO-P02202US2

(PATENT)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Stephen D. Ginsberg, et al

Application No.: 10/075,335

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: February 14, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS OF
AMPLIFYING RNA

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please further amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please add the following new claims:

107. (New) A method of RNA amplification comprising:

incubating a target nucleic acid strand with a terminal continuation oligonucleotide, and a first strand synthesis primer which is complementary to a region at the 3' end or a region upstream of the 3' end of the target nucleic acid strand under conditions that facilitate hybridization of the first strand synthesis primer to the target nucleic acid strand, wherein the terminal continuation oligonucleotide comprises a 3' end terminal nucleotide selected from the group consisting of guanine, deoxyguanine, cytosine, and deoxycytosine, and